

DOE NEWS

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Public Water Supply Project Completed At Fernald

CINCINNATI, Ohio October 6, 1997 -- Residents living near the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Fernald Environmental Management Project (FEMP) are now receiving public water through a distribution main connected to the Cincinnati Water Works' Bolton Plant in Fairfield.

The final residential connection was recently made, completing the Crosby Township Public Water Supply Project. In all, approximately 130 township residences are receiving free service connections to the system.

In 1993, the DOE committed to providing a public water supply to all residences and businesses potentially affected by the South Groundwater Contamination Plume and provided a grant to the Hamilton County Board of Commissioners. The contamination plume resulted from past uranium metal production operations at Fernald. Remedial activities are in progress to clean up uranium contaminated portions of the Great Miami Aquifer beneath and just south of Fernald property.

The DOE is funded approximately \$6 million as its share of the \$10 million Public Water Supply Project, which was coordinated by the DOE-FEMP Office, Hamilton County Department of Public Works and Cincinnati Water Works. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), Ohio EPA, area residents and other groups were kept abreast of and provided input to the project, which includes a 500,000 gallon reservoir on Crosby Road.

The bulk of construction took place in 1995 and 1996, connecting the Cincinnati Water Works' Bolton Plant (located on River Road in Fairfield) to portions of Crosby Township.

The FEMP is a DOE site being remediated under a Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act agreement between DOE and U.S. EPA. Fluor Daniel Fernald is managing the cleanup under contract with DOE.

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